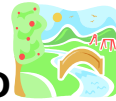




## REDMOND PARK BOARD



### **Meeting Minutes August 4, 2005 Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center**

#### **I. Call to order/Welcome to Citizen Guests**

The regular meeting of the Redmond Park Board was called to order by Vice Chair Seth Kelsey at 7:01 p.m.

Board members present: Co-chair: Kelsey, Board members: Margeson, Stewart, and Ladd. Ladd arriving at 7:35 p.m.

Absent and Excused: Lori Snodgrass, Park Board Chair

City staff present: Danny Hopkins, Parks Director; Tim Cox, Parks Planning Manager; Jon Spangler, Natural Resources Manager; Roger Dane, Natural Resources Engineer; and Sharon Sato, Recording Secretary.

#### **II. Approval of Minutes**

Motion for approval of the July 7, 2005 Redmond Park Board minutes as presented:

Motion by: Margeson to adopt minutes

Second by: Stewart

Motion carried: 3-0 unanimous

#### **III. Items from the Audience**

John Campbell, Idylwood Beach Park area resident, addressed the Board with concerns regarding dogs at the Park and on the beach at Idylwood Park. Mr. Campbell had previously addressed his concerns to the Board, on this subject, at the July meeting.

Mr. Campbell brought photos of the beach area, shoreline, bridge crossing the creek and the "No dog within 150' of the beach area" sign. His photos illustrated varied distances from beach to shore (58' and 150').

Gizela Berreth, GrassLawn Park area resident - suggested that more sand be added to the Idylwood beachfront, thus eliminating the confusion as to where the beachfront begins.

On another subject, Ms. Berreth asked the Board to consider removing Grass Lawn Park's softball field #3. She regularly walks her six month old baby on the gravel trail along the west side of the ballfield, and recently her baby stroller was hit by a softball. She would like to see that field turned into a grass area with an oval trail along the perimeter.

Ms. Berreth also addressed the existing playground area. She would like to see equipment appropriate for young toddlers, et. al. bouncing motorcycles and smaller scale play equipment integrated into the existing play area enabling older and younger children to play in the same area. She also suggested adding a covered play area with a plexi-glass cover, for rainy days, which could also be used for picnic or birthday party rentals.

She also addressed a wet area in the northwest corner of the park, which puddles up during the rainy season, she asked the City to consider adding asphalt to relieve the problem.

In response, Hopkins stated that staff is currently in the process of reviewing Phase III renovation for Grass Lawn Park. He added there were several things contributing to the problem of stray softballs. For the interim, temporary fencing has been installed to help alleviate the problem. A permanent solution will be part of renovation and re-design of the softball fields. Other interim solutions are: scheduling women's softball teams for this field and using softer core balls. This redesign, along with two other park designs, will be coming forth for Board review and public input in the future (Hartman Park - Fields 5 & 6 and the Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center - exterior portion).

#### **IV. Additions to the Agenda/Handouts**

##### **A. Adult Kickball**

Hopkins reported that Kickball, Dodgeball, and Wiffleball are making a comeback in adult sports. The City is looking for possible future marketing opportunities for retro/corporate games in the area. As the Department is adding more synthetic turf fields, more inquiries for Rugby, LaCrosse and Field Hockey field time have been noted.

#### **V. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **A. Idylwood Park Dog Regulations**

Staff has done background research regarding the history of dog regulations at Idylwood Park. Originally trying to interface all types of recreational activities, keeping a safe swimming environment, both from a management standpoint (i.e. lifeguards) and also from a potential health standpoint, was the goal.

Parks staff is sensitive to citizen comments, and are still looking into the issue of dogs on leashes and the 150' from beachfront regulation. Possible consideration in the reduction of the "150" from the beach, dog" rule will be reviewed.

The Idylwood Opportunity Study Plans include extending the beachfront by 30'-40', increasing beach width by 20'-40', adding a seating wall, and modifying trail alignments in the meadow area.

Mr. Campbell was in favor of the "no dogs on the sand beach area", "no dogs off leash", and "poop scoop" law. He also added that there are too many signs on the premises, which detracts from the beauty of the park.

Hopkins reiterated his sensitivity to the signage and dog issues and noted that actions will be sensitive to future park plan. Staff will look into issues of practicality in bringing a solution to these concerns, as well as serving the citizens in the best possible way.

Stewart stated it is important to take a closer look at the opportunity study, to see how the dog issue can be incorporated into the plans reflecting an opportunity for dogs to be on the beach in other areas of the park. She added that a comfortable buffer/clearly defined area needed to be made for those uncomfortable interfacing with dogs.

Cox noted that the original ordinance was adopted as the City acquired Idylwood Park from King County (1994). He added that the revised language might be needed to reflect today's standards and issues based on over 10 years of City operation of the park.

Margeson added that this is a safety issue and at some times of the season, when the beach is not utilized, this might not be an issue. A defined area during peak seasons is favorable.

Kelsey defined the beachfront as within 150' of the shoreline. Kelsey commented that he is open for staff comments/recommendations, but felt that the ordinance was well defined.

B. Anderson Park Master Plan Amendment

Cox reported that Public Works has hired HDR Engineers to help provide information for a master plan amendment if Park Board determines the need. HDR will begin the site survey on Monday, August 8th.

Cox requested a deferred report to the September or October meeting.

C. Disc Golf at Juel Park

Kelsey had an opportunity to use the course site and found it to be not maintained to user satisfaction, many places were overgrown with vegetation. He had asked staff to look into this.

Cox responded that because it is an interim use park there would not be the level of programming and "finished" maintenance standards as other fully developed parks in the city. Maintenance is prioritized and limited by static maintenance and operations budget.

Parks Maintenance staff has created and enhanced the soft surface trails linking Juel Park to Farrell McWhirter Park and improved parking. This park entertains two main activities; Disc Golf and Cricket, along with passive uses and occasional group events.

Disc Golf was approved within the park by the Park Board in hopes of generating enthusiasm for the sport. The maintenance required by the Parks budget has been limited due to funding, thus creating some dissatisfactory experiences for disc golf users - lost discs, fairways too narrow, etc., not what the Park Board intended.

Hopkins responded that staff is sensitive to this issue and would brainstorm some ways to increase maintenance at Juel.

Cox added that staff had met with the Colts Cricket Club who wish to negotiate and extend their two year interim agreement at the end of this season. If any long term agreement is discussed, a number of items needed to be considered; a user fee may need to be established, along with a more defined schedule, maintenance requirements and possibly a supplemental fee paid in order to expand services.

Stewart inquired about the "Adopt a Park" Program that might assist in the maintenance of that site. Cox noted liability might be in question, however staff will be looking into the program to present at a future Parks Board meeting.

## **VI. New Business**

A. Redmond 74 - Roger Dane, PW Natural Resources Engineer and Jon Spangler, PW Natural Resources Division Manager

Spangler gave the Board an overview of the property along the Sammamish River Trail, aka Redmond 74 subdivision (valley floor lots north of the Puget Power Lines). Two 10 acre lots are part of the Redmond 74 development. The property between the two lots is a

Stormwater facility, required of the development. There is a stream on the north end and wetland enhancement to compensate mitigations of impacts on portions of the site; with a large oblong wetland/low area which was created to offset wetland impacts associated with development.

Before development began, Natural Resources was looking at this property for potential additional enhancements along the river, similar to projects done for RiverWalk. PW has set aside funds to purchase the property, and has received two grants to put towards the purchase of the property - \$275,000. In addition, there are enhancement opportunities for open space, parks and recreational trails.

Spangler brought conceptual drawings of possible scenarios of plans for the project. Spangler asked the Board's opinion on the opportunity to partner with Parks and Public Works to discuss these potential scenarios; in hopes of moving forward to City Council Committees and Council.

Dane summarized that preliminary discussion were held, last year, between the City and the developer. Dane sees passive recreational opportunities to the site; hikers, bikers, equestrians, and potential kayakers, dependent on how the off channel area is developed, in association with preservation and habitat enhancement.

Cox elaborated that the Trails Commission saw potential opportunity to enhance and preserve the 20 acre area adjacent to the river as open space, habitat enhancement, and passive use. The Trails Commission was also concerned about the quality of the experience of the Sammamish River Trail at that location. Cox also noted that there might be an opportunity to expand the Lakes to Locks experience for kayaking, canoeing, rafting, and other non-motorized shallow draft boating, as well as interpretive trails in the area. The Trails Commission made a motion to draft a letter of support for the concept. Cox added that a show of support from the Board would be helpful as the project moves forward to City Council and pursuing any other grant opportunities.

Spangler added, if the property is not acquired, there is a possibility that it could be developed into two larger lot residences, and fenced off from the public. Ten acre lots in Redmond are highly unusual. The benefit to the public would be substantially reduced if private development occurs.

Stewart commented that one of the access points through a neighborhood; she would like to see a more public perspective,

possibly coming in from the south, discouraging users to remotely access through that corridor. Dane responded that roads are being constructed through the development east of the two parcels; these roads would be used to maintain wetlands area, and would provide a minimal level of parking

Stewart inquired how difficult neighborhood access to the trail would be. Cox responded that the public streets are typically wide enough to provide parking on both sides of the street; he also added that this was a planned residential development with trails linking to the PSE Trail and Sammamish Trail (west and south).

Margeson commented that the idea was a very favorable one, timing is perfect, responds well to the open space needs, meets the needs for the existing development along the trail, and enhances the outstanding existing trail.

Spangler noted that this project would meet the top four needs of the community:

- Protecting water quality in rivers and streams
- Protecting land around rivers and streams
- Wildlife habitat and natural areas
- Preserving open space

Ladd commented that in principle this was a very favorable project, with an opportunity to enhance a project area, however, he inquired what dollar amount is needed from the Parks Dept. Spangler responded that the Natural Resources Division of Pubic Works is funded by Stormwater Utilities; monies can only be spent on certain utility projects - et. al. stream enhancements, wildlife habitat. Park amenities need to be funded by the Parks Dept.

Cox added that the Parks Director has expressed support of the concept and project; however it is his belief that Parks is a "jr." partner where funding is concerned. The Board and Commission can lend support for possible grant opportunities and partnership in land acquisition. If plans proceed on the project, Parks staff would then return to the Park Board for further discussion.

Ladd reaffirmed his favor of support for this project, however dependant on the degree of involvement for purchasing open space, he is concerned about achieving goals for both departments.

Spangler felt this project and its accessibility fits the voter's criteria as far as meeting the needs for the community in a voting or bond situation. He reported that each year Stormwater Utility brings in

approximately \$7.5 million a year from Stormwater fees, of which a large amount goes into the division's CIP fund, budgeted out for six years, the Council can decide at anytime how projects are prioritized.

Kelsey noted that he was in favor of the idea, adding that this project could only benefit the City, as well as enhancing the trail and river.

Motion by Margeson:

For Board approval and support to move forward with the project, negotiations, and attempt for Stormwater to obtain grant funding for the project.

Amendment to Motion by Margeson by Margeson to add:

The Board directs staff to compose a letter of support for review and signature at the September Park Board meeting.

Second by Ladd

Unanimously Approved 4-0

B. Central Park East Garden - Phase 7, Municipal Campus MP

Cox handed out a site diagram of the City's East Garden site of the proposed Municipal Campus, Central Park Master Plan. The parcel is located on the east side of the 160th Street adjacent to the existing daycare and is approximately 1.5 acres.

Spangler explained that a large storm drain is located within NE 85th Street which drains about 200 acres of downtown Redmond. Most of the water passing through that drain is not treated by any stormwater control and dumping in the Sammamish River. Significant problems in the water quality have been identified. A vault is needed that would house an underground treatment facility. The "East Garden" site has been suggested as a site that might be available to house 40% (of 100%) underground treatment facility. If approved, the "East Garden" site would develop park facilities on top of the vault (3' to 4' of soil to plant shrubs will be placed on top of the vault, various equipment and light landscaping would also be allowed ) i.e. no large trees. There are 15-20 trees on-site, of which, 10-15 would be removed. Removed tree rounds would be used in Public Works enhancement projects, i.e. Sammamish River - 90th Street Bridge project.

Margeson inquired if a "Pea Patch" might be acceptable on that site. Spangler affirmed the potential use; however he added that manhole access would need to be available, on the surface, for Vactor access, on the corners of the site, once or twice a year cleaning.

Kelsey asked if other areas had been considered. Spangler noted that the lawn area between the Technical Center and Public Safety Building had been also considered for the remaining 60% treatment facility. The existing Art Hill, which is now temporary parking, had also been considered, along with the site located between the Opportunity Building and new City Hall building and the area behind Ben Franklin Crafts store. These sites were either too far away, the grade in elevation would not be conducive to good drainage, or too financially costly.

The vault is 8' deep/in height and must be built at a certain elevation for good drainage - gravity flow, no pumps involved.

Hopkins added that this is a cooperative project between Public Works and the Parks Dept., would improve water quality and does not impact the intent of the proposed property.

Ladd inquired if, in reference to the other properties considered, were costs referring to acquisition costs and site improvements. Spangler responded that the property location and acquisition were both considerations.

Kelsey inquired if the new parking structure might have been a good underground location for the vault. Spangler responded that the garage would be too restrictive to maintenance, as well as the building being too large.

Stewart noted that the "East Garden" site might be a good interactive activity opportunity for youth along with an educational kiosk/gazebo on site.

Motion by Ladd:

Subject to support by the Park Board, proceed with designing the vault, with the stipulation that Parks staff meets with the Parks & Human Services Committee to garnish support.

Second by:

Margeson

Unanimously Approved 4-0



## **VII. Reports – Projects**

### **A. TEA-21 Applications**

Cox reported the City is preparing for its annual request for federal funds for non-motorized Transportation projects. As part of this, it is desirable to gather letters of support from City Boards, Commission and Committees. Letters are due in September and will be filed along with the application.

Cox provided two sample letters which need to be reviewed and, within the next few weeks, signed. The three projects applied for this year:

- Acquisition of 1.8 mile segment of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad Line, within downtown, 90th Street to King County property at Bear Creek. The City would apply for the \$2.5m grant to acquire site.
- Design and construction of the PSE Trail from the Sammamish River up to Redmond-Woodinville Road. Augmented by limited paving as the trail approaches crossing at 104th and 172nd for safety measures.

## **VIII. Coming Attractions**

### **A. Education Hill - North Redmond CAC Comments**

Next month

### **B. Land Acquisition**

Next month

### **C. Other**

Hopkins reported that Parks staff has applied for the INPRA Design Award for Perrigo Park. This award encompasses the Northwest.

Hopkins announced that he has resigned and will be leaving the City in October, 2005. He will be returning to Florida.

The Board thanked Hopkins for his five years of excellent service.

## **IX. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn: Margeson

Second by: Ladd

Approved: 4-0

Meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Seth Kelsey, Vice Chair

Minutes prepared by Recording Secretary, Sharon Sato

Next Regular Meeting  
September 1, 2005  
7:00 p.m.

Location: Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center